News Release
Communiqué

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Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée

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MCGUINTY GOVERNMENT PROVIDES GRANT TO PLAN FOR A NEW HOSPITAL IN FERGUS

Half Million Dollar Investment to Support Development of Proposal for New Facility

FERGUS – The McGuinty government is providing funding to the Groves Memorial Community Hospital to support the development of a proposal and business case for a replacement facility, MPP Liz Sandals announced today on behalf of Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman.

"We are thrilled to provide funding to support the planning for a proposed new facility for the residents served by Groves Memorial" said MPP Liz Sandals. "The funding announced today will assist the hospital in planning for improved access to quality health care close to home."

The government is providing a $500,000 grant to Groves Memorial Community Hospital as a first step toward the replacement of its current facility.

"The McGuinty government is pleased to lend support to Groves Memorial Community Hospital to help plan for an improved facility which would support timely access to health care for the people of Fergus and surrounding communities," said Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman.

"We are pleased with the government's support for developing a plan for an improved facility" said Jerome Quenneville, President and CEO of Groves Memorial Community Hospital. "This funding will allow the hospital to plan for the future needs of the community's growing and aging population."

This is just one more example of how, working together, Ontarians have achieved results in providing quality hospital care. Other initiatives include:

- Providing over $41 million in Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF) to all Ontario public hospitals for critical or high-need priority projects. Groves Memorial Community Hospital has received over $400,000 from this fund in the last three years.
- Investing $5 billion in modernizing and expanding health care facilities by 2010 to meet the needs of the province's growing and aging population.
- Investing $143 million in an Emergency Department Action Plan, which contains system-wide solutions to ensure emergency rooms stay open and increase capacity in the health care system to meet the needs of Ontario patients.
- Reducing wait times for five key health care services (hip and knee joint replacement, cataract surgeries, MRI exams, cancer surgeries and cardiac procedures).

Today's initiative is part of the McGuinty government's plan for innovation in public health care, building a system that delivers on three priorities - keeping Ontarians healthy, reducing wait times and providing better access to doctors and nurses

-30-

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